

Subject Index to

Medical Economics

July Through December, 1958

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*Complete bibliography available on request.

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One Man's Fight Against Hos-

new survey reveals

Orinase* is even safer than aspirin!

Therapeutically, a hypoglycemic agent and an analgesic are obviously dissimilar in the extreme. We selected aspirin as a basis of comparison simply because it is so widely used and so highly regarded. The purpose of this comparison is not to disparage the unquestioned value of aspirin in medicine, but rather to dramatize the remarkable safety of Orinase.

The results of a survey which involved a comprehensive, objective analysis of Orinase therapy in 9,168 diabetics treated in this country by 420 clinicians, over periods of up to 28 months, were presented recently at the Third Congress of the International Diabetes Federation in Düsseldorf, Germany.

Insofar as safety is concerned, this survey confirmed the fact that Orinase's remarkable freedom from toxicity makes it almost unique among drugs of therapeutic importance. Among these 9,168 patients, there was not a single instance of serious toxic reaction, and the total incidence of side effects (including even those not traceable to Orinase, plus those of insufficient severity to necessitate cessation of therapy) was only 3.2 per cent.

Even the ubiquitous aspirin cannot match this safety record. The lowest incidence of side effects from aspirin reported in the last 5 years, based on an exhaustive survey of the literature, was 5 per cent. And even this incidence occurred among some 300 people representing an average cross section of the community, without reference to their previous medical history.¹

In short, the maximum incidence of side effects with Orinase is less than the minimum incidence of side effects with aspirin, on dosage levels in the 1 to 1.5 gram range. In other words, even if aspirin possessed hypoglycemic activity equivalent to that of Orinase (which it of course does not), Orinase would still be the drug of choice, because of its greater safety.

*TRADEMARK, REG. U. S. PAT. OFF. — TOLBUTAMIDE, UPJOHN

1. Muir, A., and Cossar, I. A.: Brit. M. J. ii:7-12 (July 2) 1955.

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Syrup: Each teaspoonful (5 cc.) of caramel-flavored syrup contains 250 mg. of sulfamethoxypyridazine. Bottle of 4 fl. oz.

References:

1. Grieble, H. G., and Jackson, G. G.: Prolonged Treatment of Urinary-Tract Infections with Sulfamethoxypyridazine. *New England J. Med.* 258:1-7, 1958.
2. Editorial: *New England J. Med.* 258:48-49, 1958.

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